



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

California State Office
2800 Cottage Way, Suite W1834
Sacramento, CA 95825
www.ca.blm.gov



Date: May 13th, 2016

Bureau of Land Management California State Office Report to the California State OHV Commission

Further updates on the following subjects will be provided at the next OHV Commission meeting:

West Mojave (WEMO) Route Network Project and Plan Amendment

Eagle Lake Field Office Presentation

Johnson Valley OHV Recreation Area Update (Barstow Field Office)

On December 26, 2013 the National Defense Authorization Act of 2014 (NDAA) was signed into law, authorizing the Marine Corps to occupy the Johnson Valley Shared Use Area (SUA) for two 30-day periods annually during which time the area would be closed to the public. In July 2015, the Marine Corps notified BLM of their plans to utilize the Johnson Valley SUA for military training from August 1-30, 2016, and of the associated temporary closure.

The Marines have established a project website to obtain additional information:

<http://www.29palms.marines.mil/Staff/G5CommunityPlansPAO/JohnsonValley.aspx> T

The Marines have also developed a mobile app for Johnson Valley OHV Recreation Area to alert the user to the SUA temporary closures for military training and when the user approaches/crosses into an area permanently closed to public access. The mobile app can be obtained at the previously mentioned project website. This website also has a “How To” guide and video for the mobile app.



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Additionally, the Marines have posted a video on training at the Combat Center:
<http://www.29palms.marines.mil/UnitHome.aspx>. This video is useful for understanding the military training that occurs at MCAGCC.

On April 2, 2016 a Resource Management Group (RMG) public meeting was held at the Lucerne Valley Community Center with approximately 30 people in attendance. The purpose of the meeting was to communicate the Marine Corps' plans to conduct a largescale exercise in August 2016 that will include training in the Shared Use Area. Information concerning temporary land closures and public safety were also discussed.

The Marine Corps will host a public meeting at the Johnson Valley Community Center on June 25, 2016 from 10 am to Noon (NOTE: This is not a RMG meeting). This meeting is also intended to communicate the Marine Corps' plans to conduct a largescale exercise in August 2016. Information concerning temporary land closures in the Johnson Valley Shared Use Area and public safety information will be discussed with attendees. All members of the public are welcome to attend. For additional information, contact the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Public Affairs Office at 760-830-6213 or SMBPLMSWEBPAO@usmc.mil.

Imperial Sand Dunes 2016 Seasonal Update

This season, the El Centro Field Office orchestrated five OHV education and safety outreach programs. Three outreach events were conducted by ISDRA Park Rangers at Oldsmobile Hill, and both the Cahuilla and Buttercup Ranger Stations. The events focused primarily on dunes safety and were orchestrated via face-to-face talks with Park Rangers and a cup of coffee, and an interactive "Fatal Vision" course. Park Rangers set up in front of the Ranger Stations to interact with members of the public and covered all topics from dunes rescues, to answering questions. The "Fatal Vision" outreach course was a great success in which members of the public had the opportunity to experience the dangers of drunk driving. In the course, supervised members of the public wore alcohol impairment simulation goggles and walked through a course marked with cones. As of May 13th, 2016, there have been just under 320 medical emergency responses calls and six OHV related fatalities.



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As of May 13th, 2016, visitation in the ISDRA reached a total of 751,734. Visitation counts will be collected throughout the summer months and the final end of fiscal year counts will be collected the last week of September 2016. Visitation is expected to decrease from now until September due to the hot summer temperatures.

ISDRA Park Rangers, Law Enforcement, and Recreation staff continued to make positive visitor contacts throughout the season. Park Rangers and Law Enforcement Rangers made several camp contacts handing out informative brochures (UDG Guides), maps, Take-It-Outside cards, and sharing information about the Avenza App. BLM Recreation staff and signer's also shared valuable information and outreach to OHV riders during the four major holidays in the ISDRA. Recreation staff pre-positioned in areas of high OHV traffic near the critical habitat closures and made positive outreach contacts in which they would educate members of the public on closure boundaries. BLM staff continued to look for proper dune etiquette and good stewards to the land all season long in efforts to reward young riders with a "Dune Guard Card."



Park Rangers Promoting Dune Safety to Young Duners



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Public Invited to Razor Off-Highway Vehicle Area Tour and Comment

Release Date: 05/16/16

Contacts: Stephen Razo, (951) 697-5217, srazo@blm.gov

News Release No. CDD-16-14

MORENO VALLEY, Calif. - The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Barstow Field Office, has scheduled three tour rides of the Razor Road Off-Highway Vehicle Area OHV area to identify locations used for riding, camping, as well as to assess use habits and general conditions of the area.

The California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Plan of 1980 mandated a recreation plan to address the intensive OHV activity of the Razor Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Area.

Public meetings were held on April 28, May 5, and May 12 to provide the public the opportunity to assess a variety of issues and proposed solutions. The scheduled tour rides will provide a more detailed opportunity for the public to provide comments and concerns regarding land use, off-highway vehicle area access, visitor services, off-highway vehicle recreational opportunities, facilities, resource values, and monitoring. The public is encouraged to participate on the following dates:

5/28/2016 – Tour of Basin Road South – Meet at 9am at the Barstow Field Office, 2601 Barstow Rd, Barstow, CA 92311, or at the kiosk on Basin Rd at 11:00am.

6/4/2016 – Tour of Razor Road and surrounding area – Meet at 9am at the Barstow Field Office, 2601 Barstow Rd, Barstow, CA 92311, or at the kiosk on Basin Rd at 11:00am

6/11/2016 – Tour Razor Road – BLM is encouraging OHV enthusiasts to lead the ride and show us their special interest spots. Meet at 9am at the Barstow Field Office, 2601 Barstow Rd, Barstow, CA 92311, or at the kiosk on Basin Rd at 11:00am

Located in the midst of the Mojave Desert, the Razor OHV Area contains diverse terrain, ideal for sand-area OHV recreation. The topography varies from flat, sandy areas on the west and



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south, to the popular sand dunes on the east, and steep, rugged hills on the north. The area offers other recreational activities as well, including rock hounding, wildlife observation, sightseeing, photography, hiking, and rock climbing.

For more information, contact Stephen Razo, (951) 697-5217 or
<http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/barstow/rasor.html>